

NEW YORK TIMES

U.S. IS CONCERNED BY PARIS RUMORS

Renews Denial That Agents
Supported Algiers Revolt

By WALLACE CARROLL

Special to The New York Times.

WASHINGTON, May 1—The United States Government is becoming concerned over the persistence of newspaper reports and rumors in France that someone from this country encouraged the April 24 meeting of France generals in Algeria.

The resulting suspicion and resentment among the French, it is feared here, may damage French-United States relations at a crucial period and create an unfavorable atmosphere for the visit that President Kennedy is scheduled to make to Paris on May 30.

Mixed with concern in some some irritation among high officials. This is caused by a belief that some French officials, far from discouraging the rumors of United States involvement in the revolt, have been fanning French suspicions.

Support of de Gaulle Stressed

Officials at the White House, the State Department, the Defense Department and the Central Intelligence Agency were emphatic today in stating that no officer, official or agent of the United States had anything to do with the revolt.

If there has been one consistent line of policy in the Eisenhower and Kennedy Administrations, it was noted, it has been support for President de

Gaulle in his efforts to settle the Algerian problem.

The news of the revolt, these officials recalled, was received with consternation in all departments and agencies in Washington.

The first accusations that the United States had encouraged the rebels were printed in Soviet newspapers and broadcast by the Moscow radio immediately after the outbreak of the revolt.

Then French newspapers, including the highly respected Le Monde, gave currency to rumors that United States agents had been in touch with the rebels and had promised them support.

In view of this, the White House and the State Department made inquiries of all departments and agencies that had officers or employees in France and North Africa.

Allen W. Dulles, director of the Central Intelligence Agency, checked with his subordinates and gave an unqualified assurance that none of his agents had given any encouragement to the rebels in France, Spain, Algeria, or elsewhere.

After consulting Mr. Dulles, Secretary of State Dean Rusk assured the French Ambassador, Hervé Alphand, last week that no United States representatives had been involved in any way with the rebels.

When the rumors persisted, he repeated this assurance yesterday to the Ambassador.

Dulles Issues Denial

Today Mr. Dulles departed from his custom and issued a personal denial of reports that some of his officials had been involved.

"Any reports or allegations that the Central Intelligence Agency or any of its personnel

had anything to do with the generals' revolt were completely false," he said.

"The reports in Pravda, Izvestia and the French press are all without basis in fact."

Bits of fact have been used to buttress the reports in the French press. For example, it has been noted that officials of the Central Intelligence Agency had a luncheon meeting in Washington with Jacques Soustelle, a former member of the de Gaulle Government who is bitterly opposed to President de Gaulle's policy in Algeria.

United States officials said today that such a luncheon had been held, but on April 4, 1960, more than a year before the revolt. Moreover, they added, the lunch was arranged by an official of the French Embassy at the request of M. Soustelle. The embassy official, they said, was present throughout the meeting. Thus, they declared there could have been no dark conspiracy.

Some officials believe that the rebel generals and their confederates started spreading the word well before the revolt that the United States favored their aims.

Reports to this effect reached the United States Government as long ago as last fall.

In November, French delegates at the meeting of the sixth "Fugwash conference" on political and scientific affairs were reported to have asked American delegates about such a possibility.

According to these French delegates, certain anti-Gaullist generals were putting out the story that they were warmer supporters of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization than General de Gaulle. For this reason, those generals sug-

gested, the United States was on their side.

Pierre Salinger, White House press secretary, left for Paris tonight to make preparations for news coverage of President Kennedy's visit.

He is aware of the efforts by the Administration to assure the French that the accusations of United States meddling are without foundation. He may therefore talk with French officials about the persistence of the rumors.